

Message Text

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65

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 A-01 ABF-01 /014 W

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R 231620Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1720

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FOR FBO, AF/W AND AF/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, NI

SUBJECT: FMG GIVES USG FIFTEEN ADDITIONAL MONTHS OCCUPATION
OKOTIE EBOH RENT FREE

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED FOLLOWING IS TEXT MEA DIPLOMATIC NOTE
(COMPLIMENTARY OPENING AND CLOSE OMITTED) DATED OCTOBER 10, 1975,
INFORMING US THAT THE FMG, IN SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL
CO-OPERATION, HAS AGREED TO OUR USE OF THE PROPERTY AT 10
OKOTIE EBOH RENT FREE UNTIL MARCH 1978.

2. QTE... AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO ...SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS
LEADING TO THE RECENT VACATION OF THE OFFICE BLOCK AT 1/3 MALONEY
STREET, LAGOS, BY UNITS OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY.
THE MINISTRY IS PLEASED TO STATE THAT THE FEDERAL MILITARY
GOVERNMENT, IN THE SPIRIT OF ITS FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL CO-OPERA-
TION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HAS
AGREED THAT THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY MAY CONTINUE TO USE THE
PROPERTY AT 10 OKOTIE EBOH STREET, IKOYI, LAGOS, RENT FREE FOR
FIFTEEN (15) MONTHS BEYOND DECEMBER 1976 REPT 1976. UNQTE
END UNCLASSIFIED

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3. COMMENT: APPEARS THIS EXTENSION IS RESULT OUR GOOD-FAITH
NEGOTIATIONS AND STRAIGHTFORWARD APPROACH WITH
FMG OVER COURSE LAST SEVERAL
MONTHS AND GOODWILL ENGENDERED BY OUR EVACUATION OF MOLONEY STREET
BUILDING ON DATE PROMISED. WE WOULD HASTEN TO POINT OUT, HOWEVER,
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THAT OKOTIE-EBOH PROPERTY IS OURS ONLY AT SUFFERANCE OF FMG.

WE CANNOT LET UP ON PLANS CONSTRUCTION NEW CHANCERY OFFICE.
SOME ACTUAL MOVEMENT (CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY) MUST RPT MUST
BE BEGUN ON NEW CHANCERY BUILDING IF WE HOPE TO (A) HOLD ON TO
SITE FOR CHANCERY AND (B) BE IN A POSITION TO NEGOTIATE RETENTION
OF OKOTIE-EBOH ANNEX BEYOND MARCH 1978 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS CHANCERY
COMPLETED. WE ARE IN PROCESS OF DRAFTING NOTE TO MEA EXPRESSING
APPREIATION FOR THE FIFTEEN MONTH EXTENSION OF FREE-RENTAL PERIOD
AND MAKING SOME REFERENCE TO OUR UNDERSTANDING THE IN EVENT NEW
CHANCERY NOT RPT NOT READY FOR OCCUPANCY AT END OF MARCH 1978,
MINISTRY'S EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT WE COULD STAY IN OKOTIE EBOH UNTI
L
OUR NEW BUILDING FINISHED COULD SERVE ON BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS
OF SHORT EXTENSION OF TIME.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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